

EPA-PNL-216

John Amos
<John@skytruth.org>
09/28/2009 05:12 PM

To Phil North
cc
bcc
Subject Re: Pebble and Chuitna

Phil - thanks for calling about our Pebble Mine work. Our blog entry for Pebble is here -- <http://blog.skytruth.org/2007/12/pebble-mine-alaska.html> and our image gallery is here -- <http://skytruth.mediatools.org/gallery/417>

The simulation shown in our blog post is the most recent one we've done (April 2007). The full-sized versions are here:

- http://skytruth.mediatools.org/sites/default/files/photo_import/1904/935/14429-1g.jpg
- http://skytruth.mediatools.org/sites/default/files/photo_import/1904/935/14433-1g.jpg

We acquired maps of the proposed pit, wasterock piles, facility locations, and impoundments from permit applications for the tailings impoundments, filed by Northern Dynasty with the Alaska DNR. We captured their maps digitally, georeferenced them, outlined all of the features, converted those features to GIS format, and overlaid them on actual Landsat satellite imagery of the Pebble site. A SkyTruth volunteer used Photoshop to render a visual approximation of the site, matching the actual GIS footprint.

The mine footprint came from a permit filing by Northern Dynasty in July 2006 that was revised in September 2006. In January 2007 I downloaded the permit applications from the state DNR's website:

Pebble Project Initial Application for Certificate of Approval to Construct a Dam

[Tailings Impoundment A](#)
[Tailings Impoundment A – Figures](#)

[Tailings Impoundment G](#)
[Tailings Impoundment G – Figures](#)

These links still work. The maps in these permit applications also show a third tailings impoundment, labeled "TSF J", but there was no permit application for this impoundment. To be conservative, we left it off our simulation. Let me know if you have any questions.

By the way, you can learn all about the Timor Sea drilling spill and lots of other stuff we do at SkyTruth through our blog: <http://blog.skytruth.org/>

Regards - John

North.Phil@epamail.epa.gov wrote:

Hi John,
It was good talking with you. Below is my contact information.

Here is the Chuitna link. I am not sure where the mine plan is among all these documents. You might try the NPDES permit application. Its very big which suggests there are images involved. If not there you might try to find the ASMCRA permit at ADNR.
<http://www.chuitnaseis.com/>

Best to you and your organization.

Phil

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"To protect your rivers, protect your mountains."

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